

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend Paragraph on page 9, lines 20 to 28 of the specification as follows:

[22] A dumbbell-shaped DNA of [21], wherein all or part of a promoter region transcribed from RNA polymerase III contains a sequence of 250 bases or less comprising at least one of the following sequences (i) ~ (iv):

(i) TATA (SEQ ID NO: 26)

(ii) CTTACCGTAACTTGAAAGT (SEQ ID NO: 27)

(iii) YYTCCCANRTNCNNYGCCR (SEQ ID NO: 28)

(iv) ATGCAAAT (SEQ ID NO: 29) or the sequence complementary to the sequence.

(wherein R is either guanine or adenine, Y is either cytosine or thymine, and N is any one of guanine, adenine, cytosine, or thymine.)

Please amend Paragraph on page 9, line 32 to page 10, line 3 of the specification as follows:

[23] A dumbbell-shaped DNA of [21], wherein all or part of a promoter region transcribed from RNA polymerase III contains a sequence of 150 bases or less comprising at least one of the following sequences (i') to (ii'):

(i') RRYNNARYGG (SEQ ID NO: 30)

(ii') GGTTCGANTCC (SEQ ID NO: 31)

(wherein R is either guanine or adenine, Y is either cytosine or thymine, and N is any one of guanine, adenine, cytosine, or thymine).

Please amend Paragraph on page 20, line 2 from the bottom to page 21, line 8 of the specification as follows:

An artificial promoter in which the promoter region used for expression is minimized may be used. Examples of such artificial promoters include promoters which contain all or part of a promoter region transcribed from RNA polymerase III and which also contain at least one of the following (i) ~ (iv).

(i) TATA (SEQ ID NO: 26)

(ii) CTTACCGTAACTTGAAAGT (SEQ ID NO: 27)

(iii) YYTCCCANNRTNCNNYGCRR (SEQ ID NO: 28)

(iv) ATGCAAAT (SEQ ID NO: 29) or its complementary sequence.

(wherein R is either guanine or adenine, Y is either cytosine or thymine, N is any one of guanine, adenine, cytosine, or thymine.)

Please amend Paragraph on page 21, lines 9 to 15 of the specification as follows:

Examples of other artificial promoters include promoters which contain all or part of a promoter region transcribed from RNA polymerase III and which also contain at least one of the following (i') ~ (ii').

(i') RRYNNARYGG (SEQ ID NO: 30)

(ii') GGTTCGANTCC (SEQ ID NO: 31)

(wherein R is either guanine or adenine, Y is either cytosine or thymine, N is any one of guanine, adenine, cytosine, or thymine.)